

REMARKS /ARGUMENTS

Initially, Applicants thank the Examiner for his allowance of claims 14-18, and the allowability of claims 3-6, 12, and 21-24 if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claims and any intervening claims. In this reply, claims 3, 7, 10-13, 21, and 25-27 have been amended. Claims 1, 2, 19, and 20 are cancelled.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103

In the Office Action, claims 1, 2, 7-9, 10, 11, 13, 19, 20, 25, 26, and 27 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,674,671 to Campbell et al. ("*Campbell*"), in view of what the Examiner considers obvious, Applicant's Admitted Prior Art (AAPA), U.S. Patent No. 7,034, 576 to Levy et al. ("*Levy*"), and/or U.S. Patent No. 6,512,712 to Desai et al. ("*Desai*"). Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of this rejection for at least the following reasons.

With respect to claims 1, 2, 19, and 20, as previously indicated these claims have been cancelled. Thus, this rejection as it relates to claims 1, 2, 19, and 20 is rendered moot.

Allowable claims 3, 12, and 21 have been rewritten into independent forms including all of the features of their base claims and the intervening claims (i.e., cancelled original claims 1, 2, 19, and 20), and are now patentable independent claims. Claims 7-9, 10, 11, 13, 25, 26, and 27 depend from patentable claims 3, 12, or 21, incorporating their recitations. Thus, for at least the reasons that claims 3, 12, and 21 are patentable, claims 7-9, 10, 11, 13, 25, 26, and 27 are likewise patentable over *Campbell* in view of what the Examiner considers obvious, AAPA, *Levy*, and/or *Desai* under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that all pending claims are in condition for allowance. Early issuance of the Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

Please charge any shortages and credit any overages to Deposit Account No. 500393.

Respectfully submitted,
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